

PATENT COOPERATION TREA

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Translation



Applicant's or agent's file reference 662194	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP00/06701	International filing date (day/month/year) 28 September 2000 (28.09.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 02 October 1999 (02.10.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04N 5/335, 5/225, 5/232, H01L 27/14		
Applicant ETOH, Takeharu		

- This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 5 sheets.

- This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☒ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 23 January 2001 (23.01.01)	Date of completion of this report 14 June 2001 (14.06.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06701

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

☐ the international application as originally filed☒ the description:pages 1-6,8-11, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages 7, filed with the letter of 08 June 2001 (08.06.2001)☒ the claims:pages 1-6, as originally filed

pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☒ the drawings:pages 1-4,7-10,12, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages 5,6,11, filed with the letter of 08 June 2001 (08.06.2001)☐ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:☐ the description, pages _____☒ the claims, Nos. 7☐ the drawings, sheets/fig. _____5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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IV. Lack of unity of invention

1. In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:

- ☐ restricted the claims.
- ☒ paid additional fees.
- ☐ paid additional fees under protest.
- ☐ neither restricted nor paid additional fees.

2. ☐ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is

- ☐ complied with.
- ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

A common technical feature of claims 1-4 (hereinafter called the invention of the first group) is "an imaging device, in which the centers of some of the blocks constituting an imaging face can be adjusted to agree with the optical axis of incident light."

A common technical feature of claims 5 and 6 (hereinafter called the invention of the second group) is "an imaging element, in which a region along at least one of the border lines between the blocks constituting an imaging face is provided with a voltage supply line for controlling the circuits in the respective blocks."

Therefore, it cannot be considered that the inventions of the above respective groups involve one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features as provided in PCT Rule 13.2.

4. Consequently, the following parts of the international application were the subject of international preliminary examination in establishing this report:

- ☒ all parts.
- ☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. _____

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-6	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-6	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-6	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Claims 1-3

Document 1: JP, 6-217206, A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 5 August, 1994 (05.08.94), full text, Figs. 1-7

Document 2: JP, 7-222067, A (Konica Corp.), 18 August, 1995 (18.08.95), full text, Figs. 1-10

are documents showing the general state of art in this technical field. Document 1 describes an imaging element, in which (1) an imaging face is divided into a plurality of blocks and (2) each of the blocks has an image information reading line. Document 2 describes a technique of changing the relative position between an imaging face of an imaging element and the optical axis of incident light. However, none of the documents cited in the ISR describes or suggests the constitution, in which the relative position is changed by 1/2 each of the length and width of each of the blocks constituting the imaging face.

Claim 4

Document 1: JP, 6-217206, A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 5 August, 1994 (05.08.94), full text, Figs. 1-7

Document 3: JP, 4-68873, A (Kinki University et al.), 4 March, 1992 (04.03.92), page 1, lower left column, lines 5-12

are documents showing the general state of art in this technical field. Document 1 describes an imaging element, in which (1) an imaging face is divided into a plurality of blocks and (2) each of the blocks has an image information reading line. Document 3 describes an imaging device, in which different kinds of imaging elements can be exchanged. However, none of the documents cited in the ISR describes or suggests the constitution, in which (1) plural kinds of packages are available for an imaging element, and (2) the packages include (a) a package allowing a chip to be installed to ensure that the centers of all the blocks constituting an imaging face agree with the optical axis of incident light and (b) a package allowing a chip to be installed to ensure that the centers of some of the blocks constituting an imaging face agree with the optical axis of incident light.

Claims 5 and 6

Document 1: JP, 6-217206, A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 5 August, 1994 (05.08.94), full text, Figs. 1-7

is a document showing the general state of art in this technical field. Document 1 describes an imaging element, in which (1) an imaging face is divided into a plurality of blocks and (2) each of the blocks has an image information reading line. However, none of the documents cited in the ISR describes or suggests the constitution, in which a region along at least one of the border lines between blocks is provided with a voltage supply line for controlling the circuits in the respective blocks.